GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:529
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006
TOURISM OFFICES ABROAD .
Murmu Shri Hemlal;Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government proposes to restructure the overseas Indian Tourism Offices in order to give impetus to tourism in the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The effective steps taken by the Government to promote Indian Tourism abroad;

(d) The number of foreign tourists visited India during each of the last three years and expected during 2006-07; and

(e) The infrastructural arrangements made/contemplated to be made to cope up with the expected in- flow of tourists in the near future? ANSWER

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a)&(b): Ministry of Tourism regularly reviews the functioning of its overseas India Tourism Offices to ensure effective marketing of India Tourism overseas.

(c): In order to promote tourism to India and attract foreign tourists to the country, the Ministry of Tourism, through its 13 Indiatourism Offices, undertakes a series of promotional activities in tourist generating markets overseas. These activities include advertising, participation in fairs and exhibitions, organising seminars, workshops and road shows, publication of brochures and joint advertisement support and inviting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers to visit the country under the Hospitality Programme of the Ministry.

(d):The details of foreign tourist visited India during last three years and year 2006 (upto June) are given as under:-

Year	No. of Foreign Tourist Arrivals
2003	2726214
2004	3457477
2005	3915324 (Provisional)
2006 (up to June)	2154890 (Provisional

(e): Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance for tourism infrastructure development to State/UT Governments, Central Government agencies, Public Sector Undertakings and Private Sector companies under its following schemes:

(i) Product/ Infrastructure Development of Destination & Circuits.

(ii) Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.

(iii) Incentive to Accommodation Infrastructure Subsidies.

In addition, Ministry of Tourism approves and classifies Hotels, Heritage properties, Apartment Hotels, Guest Houses, Time share resorts, Bed and Breakfast establishments to ensure standard accommodation to tourists. Ministry of Tourism has also been in

constant touch with various State Government and land owning agencies to follow investor friendly land policies, creation of land banks and adopt the policy of single window clearance for hotel projects.